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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
J. Eric Lauritzen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/726,796

Confirmation No.: 5691

Filed: November 30, 2000

For: Apparatus For Preventing  
Erosion of Wellbore  
Components and Method  
of Fabricating Same

Group Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: Robert J. Popovics

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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TC 1700

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on June 7, 2002 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
Date 7 June 02	Signature <i>William E. Stettin</i>

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 7, 2002**

In response to the Office Action dated March 7, 2002, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 7, 2002, please enter the following amendments and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0072/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elect claims 1-11 and 28-31, Group I, and withdraw a request reconsideration of the restriction requirement.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 1, cancel claims 8, 9, and 28-31, withdraw claims 12-27, and add new claim 32.

1. (Amended) An apparatus for preventing erosion of wellbore components comprising: